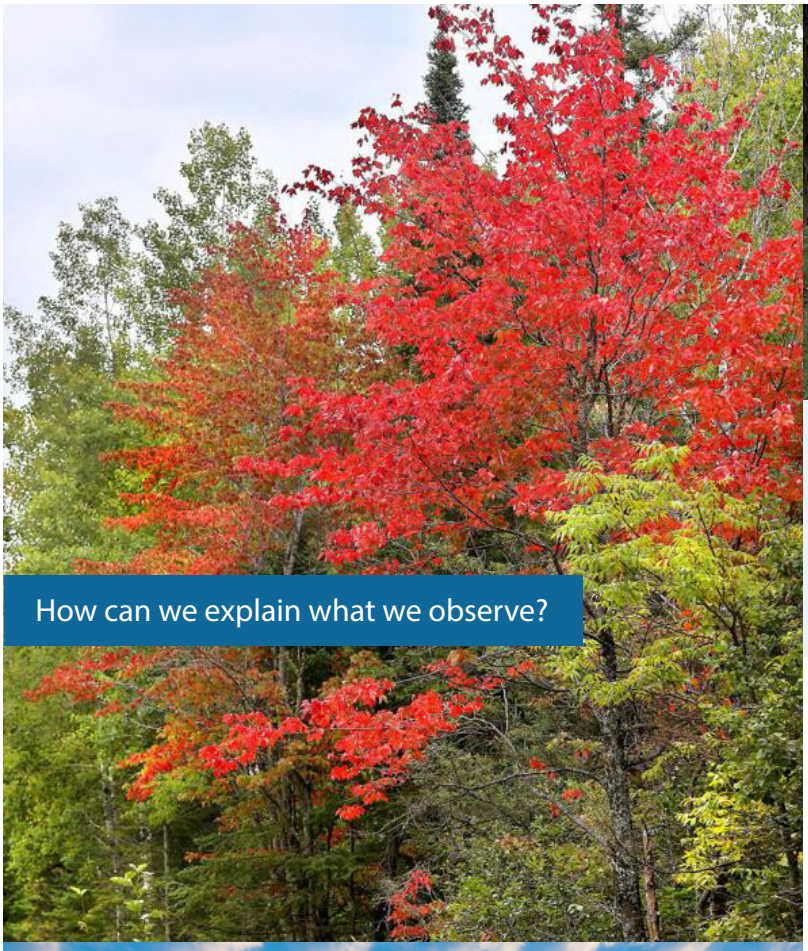
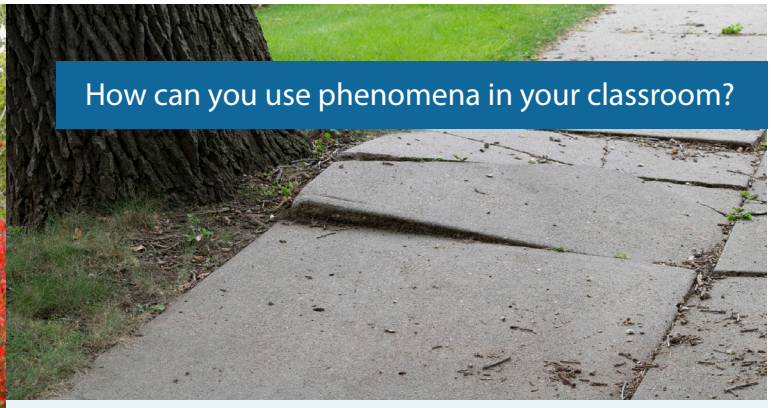
Phenomenon™
EXPLORE OUR WORLD

What is a phenomenon?



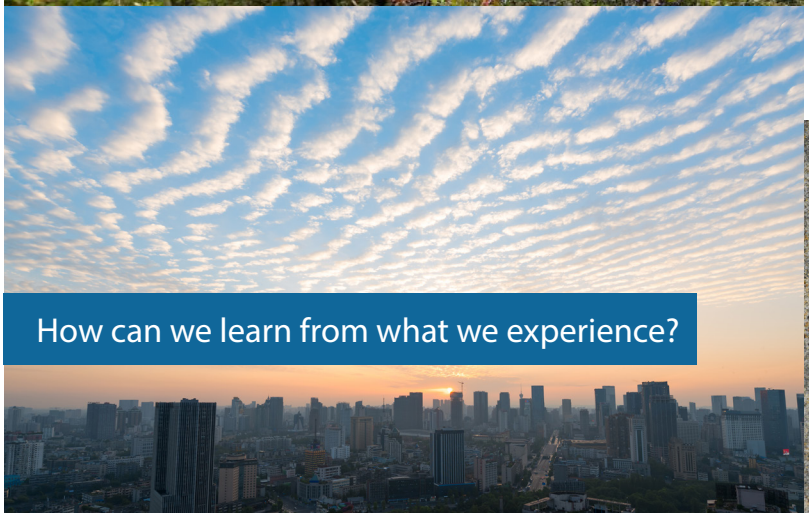
How can we explain what we observe?



How can you use phenomena in your classroom?

We are here to help teachers employ new science standards in effective ways to inspire science learning in the classroom.

How can we use standards to explain phenomena?



How can we learn from what we experience?

Phenomenon is dedicated to helping teachers shift from a traditional classroom model to an innovative, student-centered and standard-driven discovery experience. We advance this goal using Phenomenon Quests.

What are Phenomenon Quests?

- They are innovative and immersive experiences that explore core idea science concepts by bringing the practices and cross-cutting concepts of three-dimensional performance expectations to bear on real-world science or engineering problems.
- They combine targeted content discussions and practice with engagement in sequences of investigative phenomenon-focused, practice-based activities linked together by overarching questions. The questions provide tangible, relevant foci for core content and facilitate sharpened understandings of cross-cutting concepts and science and engineering practices.
- Phenomenon Quests are delivered as 1-3 day in-person workshops; they can be delivered in the classroom or as combination of classroom and fieldtrip time; virtual web-based parallel experience versions are forthcoming.
- As science processes are observed in many different scenarios and world locations, we take quest concepts and build regionally-relevant versions which are tailored to educators in different parts of the country.

Example of a Grade 6-8 Phenomenon Quest

- The Volcanoes of the Connecticut Valley uses the question "How do we know there were volcanoes in the Connecticut River Valley during the Age of Dinosaurs?" as a vehicle to understand volcanism and how plate tectonics drives volcanism, concepts which contribute to the core idea that Earth's surface features are best explained by process interactions of key systems over time and at multiple scales.
- This quest, delivered in the classroom or in the field, combines discussions about the rock cycle and landforms, stratigraphy and age dating, and volcanism and tectonics, with a tour of Massachusetts and Connecticut sites that exhibit evidence of central New England's Triassic-Jurassic volcanic system, and which include the investigative phenomena to focus the practice-based activities.
- By participating in this workshop, teachers experience the content as students would while our experts guide discussions and model research-based, EQuIP vetted lessons.
- Derivatives of this state-of-the-art pedagogy can address both elementary and high school performance expectations and standards.

Our staff are acknowledged experts in their fields of science, in phenomena, and in the three-dimensions of science education. They have years of classroom or teacher-facing experience behind them and have studied best practices in implementing the new standards and engaging student-centered lessons. We want to help you create a successful classroom environment for all students.

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